

## Message Text

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20

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-10 OMB-01 SAM-01 /075 W

----- 051077

R 151430Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4641

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY BANGUI

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CAPE TOWN 0553

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SF, IV

SUBJECT: VORSTER/HOUPHOUET-BOIGN MEETING CONFIRMED

1. SOUTH AFRICAN DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION RELEASED STATEMENT MAY 14 CONCERNING HITHERTO SECRET, BUT WIDELY RUMORED, MEETING IN SEPTEMBER 1974 BETWEEN PRIME MINISTER VORSTER AND IVORY COAST PRESIDENT HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY. INFORMATION DEPT GAVE NO INDICATION WHY PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT MADE AT THIS TIME.

2. ACCORDING TO SAG, VORSTER FLEW TO IVORY COAST ON SEPT 22, 1974 ACCOMPANIED BY, AMONG OTHERS, SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS BRAND FOURIE (HIGHEST-RANKING FOREIGN MINISTRY CIVIL SERVANT), SECURITY POLICE CHIEF VAN DEN BERGH, AND SECRETARY FOR INFORMATION DE. ESCHER RHODIE. TWO DAYS OF TALKS WITH IVORY COAST PRESIDENT WERE HELD AT LATTER'S RESIDENCE AT YAMOOUSSOUKRO, 350 KILOMETERS  
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OUTSIDE ABIDJAN. AFTER INFORMATION DEPT ANNOUNCEMENT, PRIME

MINISTER VORSTER CONFIRMED NEWS TO PRESS AND TOLD REPORTERS THAT HE AND HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY HAD DISCUSSED WORLD AND AFRICAN PROBLEMS AS WELL AS SAG TECHNICAL AND ECONOMIC AID TO IVORY COAST. VORSTER SAID HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY HAD BEEN FIRST AFRICAN HEAD OF STATE WITH WHOM HE HAD MADE CONTACT EXCEPT FOR PRESIDENT BANDA OF MALAWI.

3. COMMENT: THE ONLY OTHER AFRICAN HEAD OF STATE VORSTER HAS PUBLICLY ACKNOWLEDGED MEETING IS PRESIDENT TOLBERT OF LIBERIA (IN FEBRUARY 1975). ADDRESSEES WILL RECALL THAT DIPLOMATIC SOURCES IN VARIOUS AFRICAN CAPITALS AS WELL AS SOUTH AFRICAN PRESS HAD ASSERTED LAST YEAR THAT VORSTER/HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY MEETING HAD INDEED TAKEN PLACE. GENERAL BELIEF THEN WAS THAT PRESIDENT SENGHOR HAD ALSO BEEN PRESENT AT MEETING. HOWEVER, MAY 14 SAG REVELATIONS MADE NO MENTION OF HIM.  
BOWDLER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** HEAD OF GOVERNMENT, VISITS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 15 MAY 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Office:** ACTION AF  
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**Subject:** VORSTER/HOUPHOUET-BOIGN MEETING CONFIRMED  
**TAGS:** PFOR, SF, IV, XA, (VORSTER, BALTHAZAR JOHANNES), (HOUPHOUET-BOGNY, FELIX)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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